

CAMP PERROT - GIRLS' CAMP 1954

ORGANIZATION:

The camp was divided this year into two sections instead of the customary three. The Senior Section was composed of 6 tents of girls ranging in age from 13-16 and the Junior Section of 7 tents of girls between the ages of 10-12. The average tent consisted of 6 campers and their Counsellor with the Section Director having a tent in her own Section. There were a total of 91 girls attending camp during the two-week period which was 12 below the comfortable capacity.

PROGRAM:

The camp was completely divided into two tribes consisting of an equal number of Seniors, Juniors and Counsellors on each. The campers elected a Big Chief (Senior) and a Little Chief (Junior) of each tribe. These 4 campers accepted a great deal of responsibility in helping plan program and in stirring up enthusiasm amongst their tribes. The majority of activities were carried on along the tribal basis - with points being awarded for such things as clean-up, passing of tests, etc. The competition was always at a high level and the campers enjoyed the competitive spirit which existed.

The morning program each day was made up of swimming lessons and interest groups - the campers picked their own interest group or groups each day and Counsellors were assigned to cover these according to the number of campers who wanted the activity. The afternoon program was carried out either in section or tent groups with such activities as track meets and games being popular. Evening program was either sectional or all camp.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

Puppet Show: Each tribe undertook, with the help of their counsellors, to stage two puppet shows - one Senior and one Junior. They wrote the scripts, made the puppets, dressed them, painted the scenery and set up the stage. This was a remarkable achievement on their part since it took them only 5 days and the plays themselves were excellent. The program covered experience in dramatics, crafts, production and served to tie all these together. The enthusiasm shown was wonderful and the campers were so pleased with the results they decided to stage the whole thing again the next day - Parents' Day.

Sunday evenings: It was decided this year to try to have a serious and meaningful program on Sunday evenings - the campers chose their favorite hymns and these along with stories and poems and a camp-fire created an atmosphere which will long be remembered by counsellors as well as campers. This in addition to a Chapel Service in the morning made Sunday a little special at Perrot.

Other all camp programs included such things as Christmas Day, Indian Council, Junior, Senior Barn Dance, Amateur Night, Pirate and Sailor Day, etc.

CAMP STAFF

Jean Machan - Director
Jocelyn Emo - Sr. Section Director
Gwen Mercer - Jr. Section Director
Mrs. M. Tincombe - Craft Director
Esther Jones - Waterfront Director
Mr. I. Roe - Nurse

Junior Section Counsellors

Carol Gowing
Elan Spackman
Helen Jackson
Helen Smith
Alice Howard
Margaret Sandbach
Valerie Granato

Senior Section Counsellors

Judith Liersch
Barbara Newell
Antonia Mitchell
Madeleine St. Denis
Geraldine Kent
Rita Dusablon

FURTHER COMMENTS:

After having been at Camp Perrot for only two weeks, I do not feel qualified to make too many recommendations or definite statements about the suitability of the campsite or the length of time devoted to boys and girls at the camp. Whether this was atypical year or not I cannot say, but from my observations, I feel I can make one or two comments.

The girls' camp was not filled to capacity. Perhaps this year the consistent bad weather for the two months preceeding had something to do with it. If this situation is repeated perhaps the reasons are not so obvious - it would be well to consider that most girls' camps' registrations drop during the month of August - the nights are cold and parents often feel that this is not the best time to send children to camp. Another reason which comes to mind is that difficulty in getting anyone to act as counsellor during the middle two weeks of August. Most available counsellor material has already been spoken for - and although I am grateful to those girls who helped this year, and although I know they tried hard and did their best for the campers, with few exceptions they just weren't good enough. Camp Perrot has definite possibilities as far as girls' camp is concerned, and I feel our program was fairly good but I know it could be a great deal better.

Another thing which happened this summer which caused me a great deal of concern was the unheralded visit of a group of local boys into camp at about 3:00 A.M. During their first visit they had actually gone right into one of the Senior tents and I believe only the quick thinking of a couple of counsellors saved the tent from panic. The camp site is so completely open to the road that it invites that sort of thing meant only as a prank by a group of bored teen-age boys - but when 13 and 14 year old girls go home and tell their parents of these happenings it won't do the camp any good.

Whether this situation is repeated or not, I think it advisable to have some sort of fence closing the property off from the road and a more adequate fence between the adjoining field and the camp.

Another necessity for next summer is a cocoa-matting covering on the dock. The present canvas cover becomes extremely slippery when wet (which is most of the time) and there were several bad falls. We were fortunate that the injuries sustained on the dock were not serious.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Machan.

DAILY SCHEDULE

7:00 A.M. Rising bell

7:05 Morning dip

7:45 Flag raising and mail call

8:00 Breakfast

8:45 Clean-up

9:30 1st interest group - Red cord instructional swim

10:15 2nd " " Blue " " "

11:00 3rd " " White " " "

11:45 Counsellors' swim

12:15 P.M. Warning bell for dinner

12:30 Dinner

1:45 Rest hour

2:45 Afternoon program

3:45 Junior swim

4:15 Senior swim

4:45 Counsellors' Swim

5:15 Warning bell for supper

5:30 Supper

7:00 Evening program

8:00 Junior cocoa

8:30 Junior lights out

8:30 Senior cocoa

9:00 Senior lights out

9:30 Counsellors except for duty counsellors off

CAMP PERROT - GIRLS' SECTION

	<u>SENIOR</u>	<u>JUNIOR</u>
Thurs. Aug. 12	Opening Campfire	Opening Campfire
Fri. Aug. 13	Skits	Campfire
Sat. Aug. 14	Amateur night	Amateur night
Sun. Aug. 15	Sunday evening - hymns, etc (indoor)	Sunday evening - hymns, etc. (indoor)
Mon. Aug. 16	HIKE DAY	HIKE DAY
Tues. Aug. 17	Pirate and Sailor	Pirate and Sailor
Wed. Aug. 18	Barn Dance	Barn Dance
Thurs. Aug. 19	Early to bed	Early to bed
Fri. Aug. 20	Indian Council	Indian Council
Sat. Aug. 21	Puppet Show	Puppet Show
Sun. Aug. 22	Parents Day - Sunday evenings	Parents Day - Sunday evening
Mon. Aug. 23	HIKE DAY	HIKE DAY
Tues. Aug. 24	Christmas Day	Christmas Day
Wed. Aug. 25	Banquet	Banquet
Thurs. Aug. 26	Home!!	Home!!